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Agenda item 19 (c)

Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Raymond **Landveld** (Suriname)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 19 (see A/66/440, para. 2). Action on sub-item (c) was taken at the 34th and 37th meetings, on 10 November and 1 December 2011. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/66/SR.34 and 37).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/66/L.27 and A/C.2/66/L.64

2. At the 34th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Argentina, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" (A/C.2/66/L.27), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its decision 57/547 of 20 December 2002 and its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/214 and 58/215 of 23 December 2003, 59/231 and 59/233 of 22 December 2004, 60/195 and 60/196 of 22 December 2005, 61/198 and 61/200 of 20 December 2006, 62/192 of 19 December 2007, 63/216 and 63/217 of 19 December 2008,

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64/200 of 21 December 2009 and 65/157 of 20 December 2010, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into consideration its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

"2. *Notes* the ongoing preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 4 to 6 June 2012;

"3. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction;

"4. *Recognizes* that the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, at its third session, was confirmed to be the main forum at the global level for policy guidance, coordination and partnership development in disaster risk reduction;

"5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the results of the midterm review of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015, and requests the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to facilitate a process leading to a post-Hyogo Framework for Action guidance framework;

"6. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the efforts made by the Secretary-General to strengthen the secretariat of the Strategy, including the extension to 2015 of the post of Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, through an inclusive, transparent and open process, to present proposals to strengthen the secretariat of the Strategy so that it is empowered and well positioned to discharge its cross-cutting mandate with efficiency and effectiveness across the United Nations system;

"8. *Welcomes* the offer made by the Government of Japan to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015;

"9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session under the item entitled 'Sustainable development' the sub-item entitled 'International Strategy for Disaster Reduction';

"10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction."

3. At its 37th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction" (A/C.2/66/L.64), submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.27.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.64 had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Mexico and facilitator of the draft resolution made a statement and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.64 by adding the words "for disaster risk reduction" at the end of operative paragraph 4.

6. Also at its 37th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.64, as orally corrected (see para. 8).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.64, draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.27 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 57/547 of 20 December 2002 and its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999, 56/195 of 21 December 2001, 57/256 of 20 December 2002, 58/214 and 58/215 of 23 December 2003, 59/231 and 59/233 of 22 December 2004, 60/195 and 60/196 of 22 December 2005, 61/198 and 61/200 of 20 December 2006, 62/192 of 19 December 2007, 63/216 and 63/217 of 19 December 2008, 64/200 of 21 December 2009 and 65/157 of 20 December 2010 as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2001/35 of 26 July 2001, and taking into consideration its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Acknowledging the importance of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 64/200 and 65/157;[1]

2. *Notes* the ongoing preparatory process of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction, and encourages Member States and the relevant United Nations bodies to take into consideration the important role of disaster risk reduction activities for, inter alia, the achievement of sustainable development;

4. *Recognizes* that the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was confirmed at its third session, held in Geneva from 8 to 13 May 2011, as being the main forum at the global level for strategic advice coordination and partnership development for disaster risk reduction;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the results of the midterm review of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disaster,[2] calls upon Member States, United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their mandates, to accelerate the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and requests the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to facilitate the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction;

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[1] A/66/301.

[2] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

6. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the efforts made by the Secretary-General to strengthen the secretariat of the Strategy, including through the extension until 2015 of the post of Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to look, in an inclusive, open and transparent manner, into other measures to ensure that the secretariat of the Strategy can discharge its cross-cutting mandate with efficiency and effectiveness;

8. *Welcomes* the offer made by the Government of Japan to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "International Strategy for Disaster Reduction";

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include therein an update on what progress has been made and what the opportunities are for making further progress in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction more effectively across the whole United Nations system.